

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/498,698

Applicant(s)

LEE, REID

Examiner

Naeem Haq

Art Unit

3625

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/24/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 89-97, 99-119 and 121-134.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

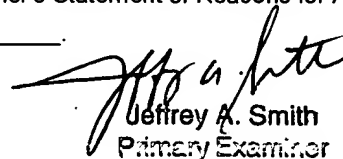
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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 Jeffrey A. Smith  
 Primary Examiner

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Agent Mark S. Williams on April 4, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Please cancel claims 135-185.**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 89-97, 99-119, and 121-134 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Statement of allowance is in reference to independent claims 89, 111, 133, and 134. All other claims are dependent on these independent claims.

The present application is directed to a method for visually configuring a computer system or measurement system by providing the user with an image of the computer system or measurement system. In particular, independent claims 89, 111, 133, and 134 recite the patentably distinct feature that the component options of the

Art Unit: 3625

configurable components of the system are displayed in the image of the system when a user selects a particular component for configuration.

Discussion of most relevant art:

i) *US Patent 6,167,383* to Henson. Henson discloses configuring a personal computer system using drop down menus. Henson does not teach providing an image of the configured system.

ii) *US Patent 6,083,267* to Motomiya et al. hereinafter referred to as Motomiya.

Motomiya discloses configuring an accessory such as a necklace. Motomiya also discloses providing a user with an image of the configured necklace (Figures 6A and 6B). However, Motomiya fails to teach that the component options of the configurable components of the necklace are displayed in the image of the necklace when a user selects a particular component for configuration. Motomiya teaches that the component options are outside the image of the necklace (Figure 6A, items "61" and "62").

iii) *IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, June 1994 TDB-ACC-NO: NA9406243* hereinafter referred to as IBM. IBM discloses a method of configuring products using drag and drop techniques. However, IBM does not disclose that the components options of the configurable components of the product are displayed in the image of the product when a user selects a particular component for configuration.

iv) *WO 00/57254* to Laser Optronics hereinafter referred to as Laser. Laser discloses a method of configuring jewellery over a communication channel. This disclosure fails to antedate the Applicant's priority date of February 7, 2000.

Art Unit: 3625

**Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naeem Haq whose telephone number is (703)-305-3930. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am-5:00pm.

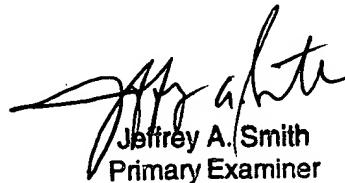
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn W. Coggins can be reached on (703)-308-1344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**Naeem Haq**, Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3625

April 4, 2005



Jeffrey A. Smith  
Primary Examiner